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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/797,799	GRAFF ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hien D. Vu	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication on 3/8/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9 and 11-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/9/05</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/10/04</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Hien Vu
HIEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Steven Zuschlag on 3/8/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Page 5, section 14, after last line, new lines have been inserted as follows:

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING --

-- FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the control device formed in according with the present invention. --.

Page 5, between last line of section [0014] and line 1 of section [0015], "ACCOUNT OF WORKING EMBODIMENT" have been changed to -- DESCRIPTION --

Page 5, section [0015], line 9, "4" has been changed to -- 5 --.

Page 19, abstract of the disclosure, line 14, "single figure" have been deleted.

Claim 1 now reads:

1. (Amended) A control device comprising:
a base, on which at least one component mounting area is provided, said base being equipped with a first electrical central interface connected with an internal electrical bus extending in the base, and at least one electrical connection module having electrical inputs or outputs permitting a temporary connection of electrical cables

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which lead away from the control device, said connection module being selectively mountable on the at least one component mounting area and having a second electrical central interface adapted to automatically make contact and, respectively, interrupt contact with the first electrical central interface upon mounting and removal of the electrical connection module; and

at least one electrically controlled fluid control module selectively mountable instead of the electrical connection module on the at least one component mounting area of said base, said fluid control module including an electrical circuit board provided with a second electrical central interface adapted during mounting and removal of the fluid control module to automatically make contact and, respectively, interrupt contact with the first electrical interface of the base, the fluid control module furthermore having an internally mounted electrically operated valve means connected to said circuit board and fluid line connections accessible from the outside for the temporary connection of fluid lines coming from a pressure source and fluid lines leading to at least one load, said electrically operated valve means being adapted to control the connection between different ones of said fluid line connections based on control signals received from said internal bus.

Claim 5 now reads:

5 (Amended) The control device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the fluid control module is adapted to be mounted with a bottom side thereof to the fore on the component mounting area, the second electrical central interface being located on the bottom side.

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Claim 6, line 2, "in the case of the fluid control modules" have been deleted.

Claim 7, line 2, "in the case of the fluid control modules" have been deleted.

Claim 10 has been canceled.

Claim 11, line 2, "connection modules and" have been deleted; line 14, "and/or" has been changed to – or --.

Claim 12, line 2, "modules" has been changed to – module --.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-9 and 11-14 are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the reason that the prior art fails to teach or suggest an internally mounted electrically operated valve means of the fluid control module connected to a circuit board and fluid line connections accessible from the outside for the temporary connection of fluid lines coming from a pressure source, wherein the operable valve means is adapted to control the connection between different ones of the fluid line connections based on the control signals received from the internal bus extended in the base as set forth in the claimed combination.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hien D. Vu whose telephone number is 571-272-2016. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

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3/9/05


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